

Town of Russiaville, Indiana
Budget Adoption for 2025 budget
Russiaville Town Hall
September 23, 2024

Council Present – Don Parvin, Pat Reel, Greg Landrum, Jake Gibson, and Roger Waddell
Corbin King, attorney, was also present.

Don Parvin opened the Budget Adoption meeting for 2025 Budget.

Don Parvin read the figures for the 2025 Budget. Adopted budget is \$956,930.00 with a tax levy of \$411,740.00 and tax rate of 1.2194. Adopted budget for home-ruled funds are \$124,700.00. Total for the budget is \$1,081,630.00. Roger Waddell made a motion to adopt the 2025 budget figures as read with Ordinance# 2024-02. Pat Reel seconded, and the motion carried with Roger, Pat, Greg, and Jake voting for passage.

There were no comments from the council or guests.
Don Parvin closed the 2025 Budget Adoption meeting.

Don Parvin – Council President
Megan Reel – Clerk Treasurer

Town of Russiaville, Indiana
Regular Council Meeting
Russiaville Town Hall
September 23, 2024

Council Present – Don Parvin, Pat Reel, Greg Landrum, Jake Gibson, and Roger Waddell
Corbin King, attorney, was also present.

Myrna Claar gave prayer. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Minutes from August 26, 2024 meeting were approved.

Treasurer's Report – Megan Reel gave written reports. Megan said she is still being audited. She also said \$95,000.00 grant was received for the S. Union St. sidewalk project.

Streets/Wastewater – Craig Thompson left a written report. Crenshaw Paving should be here around mid to end of October to get paving done.

Marshal's Dept. – Josh Fulkerson was present and had a written report. Josh said he would like to give a shout out to Carl and Corey and Logan as they have each put in over 40 hours of training in this past month. They are doing great. Josh said the food truck event is on Sept. 28th from 5-8 pm. Halloween hours are Thursday, October 31st from 5-8pm.

Josh said the Axon contract for the next 5 years that was approved at the last meeting has had a wrench thrown into it. Our current contract ends September of 2025, but if we wait until then the price goes up. Axon is willing to roll our remaining contract onto the next one in order to save us the money for what would start next year. Josh asked if the board was still ok with this. Roger Waddell asked what the savings was if we roll it in. Josh said almost \$3,500.00. Roger Waddell made a motion to allow Axon to roll the remaining contract into the new one to save money on the equipment. Jake Gibson seconded, and the motion carried with Roger, Jake, Pat, and Greg voting for passage.

Josh said they are still working on pricing for police new vehicles. He is waiting for some equipment quotes. They are thinking close to \$15,000.00 per vehicle. Josh would like to get serious quotes on the whole thing with the board's approval. Don Parvin said we would table this until next month, for Josh to have some time to get more solid numbers on police vehicles. Greg Landrum asked about trade in, and Josh said yes for sure on the Durango.

EMA Advisory – Nothing to report.

Public Safety – Nothing to report.

Health Department – Rick Homkes said Chistina Sommers from the Howard County Health Dept. will be coming to the Lions Club to talk about 4 upcoming trainings on October 21st. Don Parvin asked Rick to please get the time for this.

Attorney Comments – Corbin King said he had talked to Jeff Lipinski about the off-road vehicle ordinance. He said Jeff told him they haven't passed it yet so we may be able to be included on it.

The floodplain admin for us would be Howard County Plan Commission, Corbin will continue to look into it.

Corbin said the rail property that was discussed previously is on tax sale. It is about a mile within our town limits. The council would like Rick Homkes and Corbin to work together on this.

Mark Fulk added that there are water and sewer lines under there in the easements if he remembers correctly.

Plan Commission – No one was present to report

Board of Zoning Appeals – No new business to report.

TIF Board – Mark Fulk was present and said he told Clifford Signs we wanted the money back from the downpayment on the signs as they couldn't follow through with the whole contract and install the signs. Things between TIF and Clifford Signs have been talked about, and Patrick from Clifford's said he had talked to Davidson Excavating about installing and he is bonded to do this work. They will apply for a permit and see if the state approves it. Mark Fulk asked if the board would be ok with this. Jake Gibson made a motion to go back to letting Clifford do the signage on State Rd 26 working out the install with Davidson Excavating and permitting with the state. Greg Landrum seconded, and the motion carried with Jake, Greg, Pat, and Roger voting for passage.

Mark Fulk said TIF would be interested in helping with safety on the crosswalk area on South Union St. Don Parvin said they would talk to the engineer on the project about this.

Rick Homkes said the parcels for TIF2 has been given to Dave Kieser.

Don Parvin said he had talked to Steve Brock about a contract for wastewater rate study as we need to keep working on the wastewater plant expansion. Pat Reel

made a motion for Don Parvin to take care of this and bring something to the board. Roger Waddell seconded, and the motion carried with Pat, Roger, Greg, and Jake voting for passage.

Interurban – The board had a final plan on Phase II for the interurban project. Don added that the Nipsco gas line that is there needs to be buried. Heating, A/C, and insulation is top priority. Greg Landrum made a motion to accept Phae II plan for the Interurban. Jake Gibson seconded, and the motion carried with Greg, Jake, Pat, and Roger voting for passage.

Roger Waddell made a motion to stay within the grant guidelines and money for Phase II. Pat Reel seconded, and the motion carried with Roger, Pat, Greg, and Jake voting for passage.

Flower bed at Interurban – Don Parvin said the environmental alleyway is overgrown and weedy and need attention west of the Interurban. Rick Homkes said there was a group at school who put this in years ago. He would take care of weeding and maintaining this. Pat Reel made a motion for Rick to see to the maintenance of this area west of the interurban. Greg Landrum seconded, and the motion carried with Pat, Greg, Jake, and Roger voting for passage.

Greg Landrum asked what are we doing with the Interurban building once we get it all done. The council basically said there was nothing set in stone, but it would be nice if it could be a sandwich shop, coffee shop or restaurant. Unsure at this point.

Historical Society – Roger Waddell asked Josh Fulkerson about the old switchboard that was at the police department before he retired. Josh said they had given it to the historical society. Myrna Claar was present and said yes, they do have it.

Park and Tree Board – Rick Homkes said they are waiting to hear if they get the DNR grant or not for the playground. Should know mid-October. Jill Newby is getting a quote to replace the “Keebler House” in Brady Park. Rick said the Lions Club is looking at some tree planting. Don Parvin said he would like Rick to find replacement trees for the 2 that were taken out for the sidewalk project. One on

N. Union and the other on S. Union. Plus, the trees for the 5-acres that need to go on the north side of it. Rick said he would, he will get addresses from Megan.

Pat Reel said DC Construction is back working on the sidewalks. Driveway approaches will begin this week. The foreman will talk to all the homeowners along there about this before they start to ensure their vehicles are out and accessible for them, etc.

Roger Waddell asked about Carter's corn on N. Union St. He is not sure when this portion of the sidewalk project will start, but if they need to remove corn Mr. Carter should be compensated for it. It may be that he already has it harvested by the time the construction crew gets down there. Roger Waddell made a motion that if corn needs to come out for the sidewalk project, the town will compensate him for what was lost. Pat Reel seconded, and the motion carried with Roger, Pat, Greg, and Jake voting for passage.

Pat Reel said East St. and North St. where the sidewalk was redone has been grass seeded.

Livestream – Megan Reel said she had received a couple different quotes from AV Pro for the livestream equipment. One was for about \$7,300.00 and the other just under \$6,000.00. She asked Jordan Buckley to do a quote for this as well. Megan added that she was having Harlee Reel record the meeting tonight on an old cellphone to test it out as the new law does not have any stipulations as far as quality and what platform you use for the live stream. Therefore, we could livestream it on Facebook. If we go that route, we may need to get an iPad and a tripod to hold it. We have a Facebook page; we could just revamp it a bit and start to use it again. Still tabled for now until we decide what to do.

The Cornerstone from the old Russiaville School – Roger Waddell said it was recently acquired after some phone calls to the right people. The council talked about a few ideas of what to do with it to display it. Roger Waddell said he would like to see what a monument company thought, and see what they would do with it for us and see how much it would cost. Greg Landrum said he thought Roger should look into it. The council all agreed.

Roger Waddell said Megan had given him a paper to pay for a radio license. He wanted to know if the police department wanted to keep it. Josh was unsure as they have their frequency. Greg Landrum made a motion for Roger Waddell and Josh Fulkerson to look into this and decide if it was something we needed to keep. Pat Reel seconded, and the motion carried with Greg, Pat, Roger, and Jake voting for passage.

Jr. Claar was present to discuss and ask what to do about his neighbor's yard. It rarely gets mowed, which is one issue, but the back yard just looks horrible. The fence is falling down, there is junk all around, and there are weeds and varmints back there that shouldn't be. Megan Reel said she had sent a letter to his mother that owns the house, and had heard back from her. She said she would ask her son to please work on this and get it tidied up. Don Parvin said if this doesn't work, we will take further action.

There being no further business to be brought before the council, the claims, receipts, payrolls, bank recs, and time sheets were presented and approved. Greg Landrum made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Pat Reel seconded, and the meeting came to an end at 6:17pm.

Don Parvin, President

Megan Reel, Clerk Treasurer